

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheet of Fig. 1 replaces the original sheet and is submitted only to provide clarity of the drawing.

REMARKS

Claims 30 – 53 are pending in the application.

To address the Examiner's objection to the drawings, a replacement drawing sheet for Fig. 1 is enclosed.

Applicants have also addressed the 35 USC § 112 rejection of claims 30 and 51. In particular, the last two lines of claim 30 have been amended to state that the planes of the flat surfaces cross above the nozzles in the area of the nozzle body, i.e. within the assembly, as supported by the drawings. Claim 51 has been amended to indicate that the mechanism is provided for opening and closing pre-determined nozzles, with a new claim 53 being submitted herewith to indicate that the mechanism is provided for opening and closing outermost ones of the nozzles.

In addition, to more clearly distinguish the nozzle assembly of claim 30 from the cited reference, the 0.5 to 4° angular range from claim 32, which claim 32 was not rejected over any art, has been incorporated into claim 30. It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited art shows or suggests an acute angle (α) of between 0.5 and 4° between a flat surface of a nozzle body and a flat surface of a guide plate.

Applicants have attempted to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action, and it is believed that claims 30 – 53 are now in condition for allowance. However, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to be able to discuss any outstanding issues and to expedite placement of the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures

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